



09-24-01

GP/2855

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#6/Response
By
9/27/01

In re application of:
MORRIS

Serial No. 09/514,532

Filed: February 28, 2000

For: *Force Sensor Assembly for an Infusion
Pump*

Group Art Unit: 2855

Examiner: M. Noori

Attorney Docket No. 8236-043-999

Date: September 20, 2001

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

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Sir:

This response is in reply to the Office Action from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office dated June 20, 2001. The period for response expires September 20, 2001. Please enter the following remarks into the file of the above identified application.

REMARKS

Applicant will sequentially address the issues raised by the Examiner. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Larson. The Applicant retains the claims in their present form and respectfully presents arguments for their allowability.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,136,554 to Larson (hereinafter "Larson"). For anticipation under 35 U.S.C. 102, the reference must teach every aspect of the claimed invention either explicitly or impliedly. Any feature not directly taught must be inherently present. (MPEP 702.6)

Both independent claims 1 and 22 claim a load cell. A load cell is a well defined term of art that means an instrument that measures pressure, typically by applying an unmeasured pressure to a piezoelectric crystal and determining the voltage across the crystal or by using